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Subject: WAR Issues for March 11, 2015
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**WEEKLY ACTIVITY REPORT
SUPERFUND DIVISION
March 11, 2015**

MORGAN'S POINT COLLISION, MORGAN'S POINT, TEXAS: On March 9, EPA received notification from Sector Houston-Galveston about a collision in the upper Houston Ship Channel (Morgan Point area) that occurred at 1247 CT. The 600 ft M/V Carla Maersk was loaded with 216,000 barrels of MTBE and reported three cargo tanks potentially breeched and leaking (unknown quantity released). The 623 ft M/V Conti Peridot is a bulk carrier (steel cargo), damage unknown but no discharge. The incident is in USCG jurisdiction. START has been activated to provide air monitoring. Two dock workers treated by EMS, one was asthmatic and not sure if it was related to Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) vapors. The other was a crane worker who they think was exposed and was taken for treatment. The USCG Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC) requested the RRT-6 discuss the use of Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) to mitigate MTBE fumes emitting from damaged cargo tanks. A call was convened to discuss the use of AFFF to address worker safety issues related to the MTBE spill. (Crossland, x2721)

GRANTS MINERAL BELT REMOVALS, CIBOLA/McKINLEY COUNTY, NM - CROSSROADS RADIOLOGICAL, NEAR SAN MATEO, NM: Excavated soil that has been temporarily stored at the staging area is being transported to a licensed facility in Colorado. The soil transportation and disposal will be completed next week. EPA is currently backfilling on residential properties. There has been no press coverage and community interest has been isolated to the residents associated with the Site. (Crossland, x 2721)

CAMP MINDEN, LA: The Dialog Committee held meetings on March 11 and 12. A public meeting was held by Congressman Fleming on March 13. During the week ending March 7, GD-ATK continued H6 removal and decon of the melter/flaker unit in bay 5 of building 1619. GD-ATK also continued crushing of extracted aluminum (EA). (Crossland, x 2721)

EPA staff continued to provide outreach support to Region and HQ in responding to site committees and workgroups, funding issues, TASC and the facilitator support. (Talton, x7205)

CES ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, HOUSTON, TX: Planned activities for the reporting period is to continue removal and disposal of containerized waste (frac tanks, vacuum boxes, and roll-off boxes) liquids, solids and other contaminated materials. Other activities include cleaning and cutting empty poly tanks, totes, drums, and other containers on site. (Crossland, x 2721)

WILCOX OIL, BRISTOW, OK (OPA/CERCLA POTENTIAL): At this time subsurface Lead contamination will be addressed during the remedial phase. The option to install a fence around the Lead contaminated area is being considered. Sample results were mailed to and discussed with the property owner. The property owner has moved out of home and off of the property indefinitely. Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) has



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requested for EPA to install a fence around Lead contaminated area. **(Crossland, x 2721)**

SBA SHIPYARDS, JENNINGS, LA: Numerous Notice of Federal Interest (NOFI) letters were sent out to potentially responsible parties (PRP). Funding was requested thru the USCG Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to conduct a removal action of the Alkyne storage pump unit. Discussed EPA planned OPA removal activities and NOFI letters with respondents. The removal action timeframe is pending funding approval and NOFI responses from PRPs. A planning meeting with the site team was held March 11. **(Crossland, x 2721)**

EXECUTIVE ORDER WORKGROUP MEETING, DALLAS, TX: Representatives from EPA, OSHA, and DHS met at the OSHA regional office to continue discussions on implementation of the Presidential Executive Order on Chemical Safety, including the review of potential standard operating procedures (SOPs). **(Crossland, x2721)**

TULANE NATIONAL PRIMATE RESEARCH CENTER, COVINGTON, LA: During the week of March 2, representatives from Region 6 Superfund Division and EPA Office of Emergency Management coordinated a call with representatives from CDC, USDA, Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and various Louisiana State Agencies. CDC and USDA shared new information regarding additional non-human primates which were ill and additional field cages which need to be assessed due to the 5 non-human primates being located in them prior to being ill. GOHSEP and CDC requested EPA's assistance in developing additional sampling plans for the field cages and offsite water and soils. Tulane will be required to implement the sampling plans. **(Crossland, x2721)**

BORDER 2012: EPA R6 is coordinating with TCEQ and BECC to plan for FY14/15 activities. FY15 proposals have been sent to Northcom. BECC has awarded 2 grants for emergency response projects along the border. **(Crossland, x 2721)**

SALT CREEK OIL SPILL, MARIETTA, OK: Conference call and coordination with ODEQ/JP Energy for partial release of water contained in the three onsite pits. The pits are being utilized to store water to reduce creek levels during inclement weather. At this time, there are no permit requirements and JP Energy has been providing sampling results to ensure the Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylenes (BTEX) and Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) Levels are non-detect. Freezing rain and snow continue to slow progress. Total recovery to date is 760 bbl. No material has reached Lake Texoma. **(Crossland, x2721)**

LEAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE: During the week of March 16 staff will attend the third phase of the Lean Six Sigma training course. The course is taught by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This course will equip candidates with the tools necessary to apply Lean Six Sigma principles to EPA's current work process. The training is needed to implement Lean throughout Region 6 which supports EPA's Lean Government Initiative. **(Crossland, x2721)**

MAJESTIC HOTEL, HOT SPRINGS, GARLAND COUNTY, AR: On Wednesday, March 11, EPA Region 6 Removal and Brownfields programs staff participated in a conference call with representatives from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality regarding their request for assistance in addressing the potential issues at the Majestic Hotel in Hot Springs Arkansas. Based on EPA's February 4 site visit and a review of the Phase I

Environmental Site Assessment for the property, EPA removal staff informed the State that current site conditions did not meet criteria for action within the removal program. The group did discuss the potential for work under the Brownfields program, once property ownership issues have been resolved. **(Crossland, x7271)**

TAR CREEK BEAVER CREEK NORTH REMEDIAL ACTION: Negotiations continue on the Cooperative Agreement between the Quapaw Tribe and EPA. The Project Officer and Remedial Project Manager have reviewed the work plan and budget and have agreed to award the Quapaw Tribe a partial award for administrative duties at this time. This will allow the Tribe needed funding to produce planning documentation to complete their remedial action award package. **(Talton, x7205)**

CHOCTAW NATION PROMISE ZONE SUMMIT: For those that were able to attend due to inclement weather, the Choctaw Nation held an open forum to discuss the Promise Zone initiative on March 5. Over 60 Federal partners and community leaders, including EPA, HUD, USDA, ATSDR as well as Mayors, elected officials, business leaders, non-profits and other stakeholders participated in the discussion forum. Topics discussed included business development, community development, public safety and education. The Choctaw Nation intends to reschedule the Summit in the near future. **(Talton, x7205)**

NATIONAL PRIORITY LIST: Updated letters to local representatives for Colonial Creosote, Bogalusa, Louisiana and Main Street Ground Water Plume, Burnett, Texas. Submitted for concurrence. **(Talton, x7205)**

CERCLA REASSESSMENT OF AMERICAN RECYCLING: From March 9 through 12, 2015, EPA in collaboration with the LDEQ conducted CERCLA Reassessment sampling at the former American Recycling site in Oil City, LA. American Recycling is an abandoned battery recycler that operated from 1981 to 1991. LDEQ requested EPA's assistance in reassessing this site due to high concentrations of lead on-site and potential releases to surface water. Samples were collected from on-site in areas of former processing, impoundments and stained soils, on-site drainage areas and in adjacent wetlands and the Halfway Slough to determine if historic activities have contributed to a release of hazardous substances. **(Banipal, x7324)**

EPA R6 DIVE TEAM: The Dive Team installed underwater samplers in Donna Canal February 17 – 20. Three EPA R6 Dive Team members participated in the operation. Samplers will be retrieved by the dive team April 6 – 9. The Dive team also plans to collaborate with science divers at Texas State University. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 26. **(Crossland, x 2721)**

TAR CREEK OU2 RESIDENTIAL REMEDIAL DESIGN: Negotiations are ongoing for ODEQ to take over the lead for Remedial Design activities under a Cooperative Agreement. Award is anticipated to take place no later than mid-April. **(Talton, x7205)**

AC NATIONAL COMPETITION: All staff members are reviewing ranking criteria for Assessment and Cleanup Proposals, due March 6-13. Panel Discussions, if necessary are scheduled between March 18 and March 26. **(Talton, x7205)**

AWP AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT: Whitewright, Texas is one of 20 communities that will be awarded an AWP grant. The announcement was made on Monday, March 9. **(Talton,**

x7205)

ENVIRONMENTAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND JOB TRAINING

PROPOSALS: Staff are reviewing ranking criteria for Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training proposals. National evaluation panels are scheduled for March 16 and 18. (Talton, x7205)

REGIONAL TRIBAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING: RTOC is scheduled for March 25. (Talton, x7205)

TAR CREEK SUPERFUND SITE: On March 17, 2015, EPA will meet with Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality and the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City to discuss and identify sites within Operable Unit 4 that they will perform remedial actions on this year and the next 3 years. A schedule and funding plan will be determined for the state and tribe-lead projects. (Meyer, x6742)

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